



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MDJ  
4.22.03

In re the Application of: **HUMA, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2653

Serial No.: 09/446,981

Examiner: **Thang V. TRAN**

Filed: **December 30, 1999**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3229**

For. **RECORDING MEDIUM, RECORDER, AND PLAYER**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**MAR 05 2003**

March 4, 2003

Sir:

**Technology Center 2600**

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies

XX that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the

attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

  
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WLB/mla

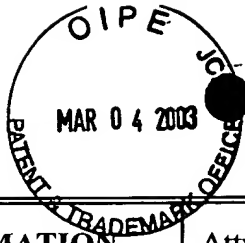
Atty. Docket No. **991504**  
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930



**23850**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449  
5 References  
European Patent Office Communication



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449</b>	Atty. Docket No. <b>991504</b>	Serial No. <b>09/446,981</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>HUMA, et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>December 30, 1999</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>2653</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA	5,218,599	Tsuyoshi et al.	06/08/1993	369	275.1	<p align="center"><b>RECEIVED</b> <b>MAR 05 2003</b></p>
_____	AB						
_____	AC						
_____	AD						
_____	AE						

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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____	AF	97/09716	03/13/1997	PCT	Yes
_____	AG	0 720 159	07/03/1996	Europe	Yes
_____	AH	0 745 985	12/04/1996	Europe	Yes
_____	AI	0 777 227	06/04/1997	Europe	Yes
_____	AJ				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

_____	AK	Copy of European Patent Office Communication including European Search Report for corresponding European Patent Application 98929740 dated January 23, 2003.		
_____	AL			
<table border="0" style="width:100%"> <tr> <td style="width:40%">Examiner</td> <td style="width:60%">Date Considered</td> </tr> </table>			Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner	Date Considered			